

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 L-03 RSR-01 /103 W
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P 242150 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6493

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 0835

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EIND, HA

SUBJECT: FURTHER DETAILS ON GOH INVESTMENT ATTITUDES

REF: P- AU- P 0814

1. COMMERCE SECRETARY FOURCAND IN CONVERSATION MAY 24 WITH EMBOFFS FURNISHED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON GOH' S DESIRE TO CLEAR UP U. S. INVESTORS RECENT PROBLEMS IN HAITI. HE SAID PRESIDENTIAL FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMMITTEE WOULD CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AS USUAL, BUT THAT HE (FOURCAND) HAD BEEN GIVEN QTE SPECIAL MISSION UNQTE BY PRESIDENT TO UNDERTAKE MEASURES NECESSARY TO SOLVE CURRENT PROBLEMS IN ORDER TO AVOID DEVELOPMENT OF UNFAVORABLE INVESTMENT CLIMATE. AS FOURCAND PHRASED IT, SINCE EVERYTHING COULD NOT BE DONE AT ONCE, HE WILL CONCENTRATE ON I. S. JOSEPH QUESTION FIRST AND THEN TAKE UP TORTUGA CONCESSION SOMEWHAT LATER. HE AGAIN SUGGESTED I. S. JOSEPH COMPANY SEND HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL FOR SERIOUS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS, STRESSING REPEATEDLY HOWEVER THAT TALKS HAD TO BE QUIETLY DISCREET AND CONDUCTED ONLY WITH HIM. FOURCAND HAD NOTHING PARTICULARLY NEW TO IMPART ON TORTUGA, SAYING THAT LEGAL PROCESS AGAINST DUPONT CARIBBEAN IS IN STATE OF ABEYANCE FOR THE MOMENT.

2. WHEN QUERIED ON HEMO CARIBBEAN, FOURCAND SAID THAT
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QUESTION WILL FALL WITHIN PURVIEW OF PUBLIC HEALTH SECRETARY THEARD, TO WHOM FOURCAND WILL PASS PRESIDENT' S INSTRUCTIONS UPON THEARD' S RETURN FROM GENEVA WHO CONFERENCE MAY 26. FOURCAND SAID THAT HE BELIEVES THEARD NOW WILL ENTER

INTO DIALOGUE WITH HEMO CARIBBEAN, NOTWITHSTANDING THEARD' S
HERETOFORE CONSISTENT REFUSAL TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH ANY
COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE.

3. COMMENT: I. S. JOSEPH PROSPECTS FOR RENEGOTIATED CONTRACT
APPEAR DEFINITELY ENHANCED IF COMPANY IS STILL INTERESTED
AND PROVIDED MATTER IS HANDLED DISCREETLY AS INSISTED UPON
BY FOURCAND. AT ONE POINT, HE STATED THAT IF SATISFACTORY
COMPROMISE AGREEMENT WITH JOSEPH COMPANY IS REACHED IN PRIVATE
NEGOTIATIONS, PRESIDENT WOULD INSTRUCT INVESTMENT COMMITTEE
TO APPROVE IT. CHANCES OF RENEWED HEMO CARIBBEAN OPERATIONS
DO NOT APPEAR SO GREATLY IMPROVED, GIVEN THEARD' S LONGSTANDING
OBJECTION TO PROJECT, BUT IT SEEMS FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT SOME
CLEAR CUT DECISION ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, AS OPPOSED TO PRO-
TRACTED DELAYS WITHOUT EXPLANATION, WILL BE FORTHCOMING SOON.

4. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT EMPHASIZE DELICACY OF HANDLING NEEDED
TO JOSEPH AND HEMO CARIBBEAN REPRESENTATIVES, A MATTER THAT
SEEMED OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO FOURCAND. LIKELY, ALTHOUGH
UNSTATED, SOURCE OF HIS CONCERN IN THIS REGARD IS APPARENT
FACT THAT HE HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED BY PRESIDENT TO CLEAN UP
INVESTMENT MESS OUTSIDE FRAMEWORK OF CABINET- LEVEL COMMITTEE
AND WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF FINANCE SECRETARY FRANCISQUE.
DISCRETION WILL BE REQUIRED ALSO IN JOSEPH NEGOTIATIONS TO
ACCOMPLISH END RUN AROUND PRIVATE SECTOR INTERESTS IN SAME
FIELD.
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